

IS430 Final Project Planning

Agenda

- What Are the Final Project Goals
- What Kind of Project Can I Choose?
- How Big Does the Final Project Need to Be?
- Who Can Help Me Plan the Project?
- Will I Need to Learn Further Python Skills?
- What If I need to Change Direction?
- Who Can Help Me When I Get Stuck?
- What Will Be Included in the Deliverables?

What Are the Final Project Goals

- Get started on a lifetime of self-directed programming projects.
- Reinforce skills learned during the course.
- Develop greater confidence in working on your own.
- Develop judgement regarding how many new Python skills are practical to learn in a new project.

What Kind of Project Can I Choose?

- All projects should include Python programming using skills learned in our course.
- You are free to choose from a wide range of topics that meet the project goals.
- These might be projects related to your professional interests or your personal interests.
- Many projects will be workflow-oriented and will require a series of programs.
- Some projects might be game-oriented and might require one big program.
- I am open to talking about any project idea to see if we can make it work.

How Big Does the Final Project Need to Be?

- The amount of work in the project should be equivalent to about 2 of our big coding assignments.
- This project might be just the start of a bigger project:
 - Prove the concept here.
 - Continue to develop the project after our course is over.

Who Can Help Me Plan the Project?

- I will help students talk through their project plans.
- Come to lab to discuss your ideas or to talk about the difficulty of getting started.
- Open a ticket to talk about the same.

Will I Need to Learn Further Python Skills?

- You might.
- We have done a good job of learning Python basics.
- You might easily need to master one or more Python packages (either from the Python Standard Library or third parties).
- The more interesting the project, the more likely it is that it will require you to learn more Python.
- The trick is to sign up for enough new learning to get an interesting project while not over-committing.

What If I need to Change Direction?

- You probably will need to make some direction changes?
- The goal is to get to a good destination.
- It does not need to be the exact destination you chose when you began.
- I can help coach you through these decisions if they get tough.

Who Can Help Me When I Get Stuck?

- I will.
- Come to lab.
- Open a ticket.

What Will Be Included in the Deliverables?

- The primary deliverable will be a PyCharm project.
- It will include a summary Jupyter Notebook that describes your project and your other deliverables.
- There will probably be a data directory.
- There will probably be further Jupyter Notebooks and Python programs depending on the nature of your project.

Will I Be Expected to Use Pytest Automated Testing?

- The challenge portion of the assignment is to include Pytest automated tests for your work to the extent that it is practical.

Last Revised 2025-11-05